

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 53

**Introduced by Assembly Members Lowenthal, Dymally, Chan,
Diaz, Dutra, Frommer, Hancock, Leno, Nunez, Pavley,
Ridley-Thomas, Salinas, Steinberg, Wiggins, and Yee**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Cogdill, Kehoe, Koretz, Levine,
Lieber, Montanez, Mountjoy, and Mullin)**

(Coauthors: Senators Alpert, Bowen, Ducheny, Kuehl, Machado,
Romero, Scott, Speier, and Vasconcellos)

February 25, 2003

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 53—Relative to the Fair
Housing Act of 1963.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 53, as amended, Lowenthal. Fair Housing Act of 1963.

This measure would commemorate the 40th anniversary of the
passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1963 authored by Assembly Member
W. Byron Rumford and the progress that has been made to afford equal
housing opportunities to all Californians regardless of race.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The history of the civil rights movement has
2 several landmark setbacks and achievements; and

3 WHEREAS, The struggle to prohibit discrimination in the sale
4 and rental of housing was an elusive goal for many years; and

5 WHEREAS, For many years, ~~Member of the Assembly~~
6 *Assembly Member* Augustus Hawkins of Los Angeles introduced

1 unsuccessful legislation to prohibit discrimination in the sale of
2 housing on the basis of race; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1963, with the support and encouragement of
4 Governor Pat Brown and former Governor Earl Warren, ~~Member~~
5 ~~of the Assembly~~ *Assembly Member* W. Byron Rumford of Oakland
6 introduced Assembly Bill No. 1240 to give all Californians the
7 equal opportunity to purchase or rent housing without regard to
8 their race; and

9 WHEREAS, The legislation encountered strong opposition
10 from organizations representing business, property owners, and
11 real estate brokers; and

12 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 1240 received final passage in
13 the Assembly on a vote of 47-24 and in the Senate by a vote of
14 22-18; and

15 WHEREAS, Opponents of the legislation sponsored
16 Proposition 14, a ballot measure to amend the California
17 Constitution to make legal discrimination in the sale or rental of
18 housing; and

19 WHEREAS, Proposition 14 was approved by the electorate by
20 a margin of almost two to one; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1967 on a vote of 5 to 4, the United States
22 Supreme Court declared the constitutional amendment null and
23 void as violative of the United States Constitution; now, therefore,
24 be it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
26 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature commemorates the 40th
27 anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1963
28 authored by Assembly Member W. Byron Rumford and the
29 progress that has been made to afford equal housing opportunities
30 to all Californians regardless of race; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
32 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

